

# Filipino Martial Arts

## Man, Woman, and School of the Year 2007

Digest

Special Issue

In recognition of the dedication, promotion and support of the Filipino Martial Arts.

*Sa pagkilala sa katapatan, pagpapantad at pagtangkilik sa Filipino Martial Arts.*

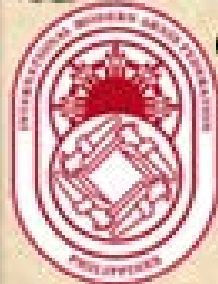
It is an honor and privilege for the FMA Digest to recognize

*Ito ay isang karangalan at pribiliheyo para sa FMA Digest upang parangalan*



Man of the Year  
Grandmaster Rene R. Tongson

Woman of the Year  
Senior Guro Ginalyn J. Relos



Organization of the Year  
IMAF



World  
Filipino  
Martial Arts  
Association

Recognition of Brotherhood  
WFMAA



School of the Year  
Kuntaw  
Aquinas University  
Legaspi, Philippines

**Publisher**

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The FMA Digest is published quarterly. Each issue features practitioners of martial arts and other internal arts of the Philippines. Other features include historical, theoretical and technical articles; reflections, Filipino martial arts, healing arts and other related subjects.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this digest are those of the authors or instructors being interviewed and are not necessarily the views of the publisher or editor.

We solicit comments and/or suggestions. Articles are also welcome.

The authors and publisher of this digest are not responsible for any injury, which may result from following the instructions contained in the digest. Before embarking on any of the physical activities described in the digest, the reader should consult his or her physician for advice regarding their individual suitability for performing such activity.

## **From the Publishers Desk**

Kumusta

It was a challenging and close nomination this year for Man of the Year. But with the most votes Grandmaster Rene Tongson of Abaniko Tres Puntas was the lead nomination. He has steadily promoted the Filipino martial arts by MCing at the 1st National Filipino Martial Arts Festival, Festival Chairman and Executive Director of the 3rd World Filipino Martial Arts Festival, traveling to Russia, and just recently in Germany at the Modern Arnis Summer Camp 2007 promoting the Filipino martial arts, this just naming a few of his accomplishments.

Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos, Modern Arnis practitioner, Secretary of the IMAFP is a most energetic lady and practitioner. Constantly working to promulgate and promote Modern Arnis and the Filipino martial arts as a whole, she is a dynamic individual that fully deserves to be recognized as Woman of the Year.

Kuntaw ng Pilipinas of Aquinas University, Legaspi, Philippines is School of the Year. Instituting the art of Kuntaw at the University and surrounding area, they continually strive and accomplish in bringing Kuntaw to light with a fully established program and also in supporting all the Filipino martial arts.

This year the FMAdigest has really not added two other categories. However the FMAdigest would like to add in recognition the IMAFP for its constant promotion of the Filipino martial arts in the Philippines with all the programs that they have established and in working with all to help promote the Filipino martial arts. And also the chapters throughout the Philippines and outside of the Philippines the appointed, commissioners in Europe, North America and the Middle East, which constantly support and help promote the goals of the IMAFP.

And also the WFMAA, with its annual gathering, that features; Grandmasters, Punong Guros, Masters and Guros who represent a variety of systems and styles of the Filipino Combative Arts, indigenous to the Philippines. This being the fifth year that the three day event is being held, has brought a brotherhood and gathering rarely witnessed and experienced by instructors and students throughout the world.

Maraming Salamat Po

**Man of the Year 2007**  
**Grandmaster Rene Tongson**  
Abaniko Tres Puntas



Grandmaster Rene R. Tongson took his first Arnis lesson at age nine (9) in Hinigaran, Negros Occidental - the hometown of Professor Remy Presas, using sugarcane instead of the rattan stick which was scarce then. His Modern Arnis training started at the age of 15 with Grandmaster Roberto Presas. From Grandmaster Mateo D. Estoloso of Antique, Panay Island, he refined his classical techniques such as Banda-y-Banda, Rompida, Doblada, Hirada Batangueña, Espada-y- Daga, Palis-palis and many more. Under Grandmaster Ernesto, he mastered the techniques of Filipino weaponry. Grandmaster Rene R. Tongson, 50 years old, is one of the two most senior Masters of the International Modern Arnis Federation - Philippines (IMAFP) under the Professor Remy Presas Clan. He is also a member of the Council of Masters of Modern Arnis, and Co-Founder-convener of **Worldwide Brotherhood of Modern Arnis (WBMA)**.

Using his high academic and administrative experience, he spearheaded the organization of Arnis Philippines (ARPI) as its 1st Secretary General in September 1986 under the Philippines Olympic Committee (POC). In 1988 he drafted and authored the original version of the Philippine National Standard for the conduct and practice of Arnis in competitive sport, the standard rules now being used in Arnis Tournaments worldwide. He has traveled worldwide where he has strong followings in Australia, Europe, USA and one of the most respected masters in the Philippines.

Grandmaster Tongson is known for his unique Abaniko Tres Puntas style and form in classical Arnis. (Abaniko Tres Puntas is a unique Philippine Classical Arnis System with intricacies of a traditional weapon oriented and close quarter technique applicable in knife, Mano-Mano and empty hand combat. The combination of Sanga-Patama and Sungkiti execution makes a deadly form of Hawi-Tapi and Traps by the late Grandmaster Mateo D. Estoloso of Antique, Philippines). Among his top students are Senior Master Bambit Dulay, Senior Master Dieter Knuttel (Germany) Master Nino Pila and Chris Traish (Australia) and leading Arnis gurus in the Philippines and worldwide.



Grandmaster Tongson graduated in college with a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering (BSIE) and a Degree of Master in Business Administration (MBA) in 1987. Since then he has held executive positions in Philippine business companies. He is presently a Director of the National Coffee Development Board - Philippines and elected Municipal Councilor of Amadeo, Cavite-Philippines. He was the point man in the preparations for the 3rd World Festival which was held in the Philippines in July 2006.



**Grandmaster Tongson holds the following distinction and rank:**

- Grandmaster of ABANIKO TRES PUNTAS
- Lakan 8 (8th degree Black Belt) - Modern Arnis
- Kendo (4th Dan)
- Member - World Head of Family Sokeship Council
- Awardee - Grandmaster of the year 2006: International Martial Arts “Hall of Fame”
- Author of ABANIKO-TRES PUNTAS Instructional DVD
- Trustee, International Modern Arnis Federation- Philippines (IMAFP)



## Introduction of Different Master of the Filipino Martial Arts.



Dayang Mitze Secopito and Master Rene Tongson



Master Roland Dantes  
Master Rene Tongson

## Master Rene Tongson with Sr. Guro Rodolfo Poblacion Jr. - Abaniko Tres Puntas







**The 3rd Filipino Martial Arts Festival 2006  
&  
The 1st Remy A. Presas Memorial Modern Arnis Camp**

**Grandmaster Rene R. Tongson  
Festival Chairman and Executive Director**



Foremost, as Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the most recent 3rd Filipino Martial Arts World Festival and 1st Professor Remy A. Presas Memorial Modern Arnis Camp in July 11-21, 2006 in Tagaytay City, Cavite and Manila in the Philippines, may I express... in behalf of the organizers, instructors, volunteer workers, benefactors and sponsors and the Alliance of Filipino Martial Arts Organizations in the Philippines... Our deepest thanks for the support; it will always remain carved in our hearts and in the hearts of the Filipino people.



**From left to right:** Guro Roy de Leon, Grandmaster Rodel Dagooc, Grandmaster Cristino Vasquez, Grandmaster Jerry dela Cruz, Grandmaster Rene Tongson, Senior Master Dieter Knuettel, Guro Ginalyn Relos, Master Godofredo Fajardo, Senior Master Bambit Dulay, Guro Paolo Motita.



Grandmaster Rene Tongson teaches the Sangga Patama Tres Puntas



Grandmaster Rene Tongson with Hauke Lengwenus (DAV)

## The Worldwide Brotherhood of Modern Arnis

During the Modern Arnis Remy Presas Memorial Camp there was a meeting of Masters and group leaders to discuss the possibility of an organization that should act like an umbrella organization for Modern Arnis Associations all over the world.

### Attending were:

- Senior Master Rene Tongson, Senior Master Bambit Dulay and Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos, all IMAFP, Philippines
- Senior Guro Edessa Ramos, IMAFP – Switzerland
- Senior Master Dan Anderson, MA80, USA, who also spoke for Senior Master Bram Frank (he was sick that night) and the CSSD/SC, USA
- Datu and Senior Master Dieter Knuettel and Philipp Wolf, DAV, Germany
- Guro Alexander Pisarkin, RAF, Russia
- Master of Tapi-Tapi Brian Zawilinski, IMAF Inc., USA



### Whom to Communicate:

Worldwide Brotherhood of Modern Arnis  
(WBMA)

Philippine Secretariat Email

**[worldbro\\_modernarnis.com.ph](mailto:worldbro_modernarnis.com.ph)**

Website: **[www.worldbromodernarnis.com](http://www.worldbromodernarnis.com)**



Meeting of the formation of the WBMA



## 1st Russian Modern Arnis Camp

February 2 - 8, 2007

Ekatarinburg, Russia

After Alexander Pisarkin had attended the 2005 Modern Arnis summer camp of the DAV and attended last year with 2 of his students in the Philippines at the 1st Remy A. Presas Memorial Modern Arnis Camp and the 3rd FMA Festival, he decided, to work with his association the "Regional Arnis Federation", RAF, and put together a 7 day Modern Arnis training camp.. This was the first "Worldwide Brotherhood of Modern Arnis" (WBMA) event after the Founding (according to my knowledge).

He invited Grandmaster Rene Tongson and Senior Master Samuel "Bambit" Dulay from the Philippines as well as Senior Master and Datu Dieter Knüttel from DAV, Germany as instructors for the camp.



Senior Master Dulay - Grandmaster Tongson - Datu Knüttel - Guro Rutkowski - Guro Pisarkin.



Television interview

The camp took place in the Ural University of Ekatarinburg, where Alexander is also teaching. It was opened by the vice-rector of the University and there was a lot of interest for the camp. The training itself was very versatile. Sinawali, disarms, empty hand concepts, self-defense, classical Arnis, Knife, double stick, Abanico Tres Puntas, Tapi-Tapi and a lot more was taught during the week. So a wide range of Modern Arnis and Filipino martial arts was covered.

Friday night was the evening of the gradings. 40 Modern Arnis practitioners were going for a new degree, ranging from white through to blue belt. (With white, yellow, green, blue and brown being the student levels there).

The next trip to Russia is planned on the 7th and 8th of December, where the Ural University of Ekatarinburg will celebrate its 40th anniversary. We were told that Grandmaster Rene Tongson and I would be invited as official guests of the University to participate at the anniversary ceremonies. After that, we will hold another Modern Arnis seminar.

These are all very positive developments for the propagation and spreading of Modern Arnis in Russia. There is already talks for a seminar in Moscow, but there is no date set as of yet.



**ABANIKO TRES PUNTAS** is a unique Philippine Classical Arnis System with intricacies of a traditional weapon oriented and close quarter technique applicable in Mano-Mano and empty hand combat. The combination of SANGA-PATAMA and SUNGKITI execution makes a deadly form of HAWI-TAPI and traps by Grand Master Mateo D. Estoloso of Antique, Philippines.

The techniques can be seen from different angles, so that all details are shown very clearly.



[www.abanico.de](http://www.abanico.de)

The price is 35.90 Euro for the German or English PAL version, for the price and distributor of the NTSC version for the USA and many countries in Asia.

Contact: [dk@abanico.de](mailto:dk@abanico.de)

**Woman of the Year 2007**  
**Senior Guro Ginalyn J. Relos**  
Modern Arnis



Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos is a native Visayan, she was born and raised in Barrio Nagustan, town of Nabas and province of Aklan in Panay Island. She started learning Martial Arts (Arnis) when she was in her first year of college, in Manila. When she was a young girl, she used to play with the boys using fighting movements she saw when she watched Jackie Chan movies. From that, her wish and aim was to learn that beautiful art she had seen in movies and to show people that a woman could do it also. In her mind, men are not all the time superior to women.

So when she went to Manila and started to study her courses in college, she used to look for some kind of physical fitness class and would hope to find a karate class, “not familiar with Filipino Martial Arts-Arnis.” Senior Guro Relos thought that it could be a stepping stone, or maybe a starter for learning karate, so she enrolled in an Arnis class, never thinking that it will be the start and it would be a continuous love for the Filipino martial art.

The only style that Senior Guro Relos ever learned was Modern Arnis from her senior instructors in the College Arnis club, which was thru Senior Master Bambit Dulay's supervision, and until she was able to directly train with Senior Master Dulay and has continued up to this date.

Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos favorite aspect about Modern Arnis is the way of learning and teaching... the openness of the art.

Senior Guro Relos thoughts on women in the Filipino martial arts are that not all men are capable of doing the martial arts. Women are capable of doing the martial arts with grace, a flowing smoothness, and form that some men cannot accomplish.

For the future my only thought is to accomplish my training to the best of my ability and looking to the future of the IMAFP as an outstanding Federation that supports all groups doing their art even if it is not modern arnis for a strong Filipino Martial Arts Brotherhood. Everybody must be happy.



Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos is the Secretary for the International Modern Arnis Federation - Philippines, and continuously sends information to up date the IMAFP website with the latest news. She has supported, taught and has been overall in charge of various programs for the IMAFP.

**[www.imafp.com](http://www.imafp.com)**



Ginalyn Relos - Senior Guro Jimson Kayog



Dayang Ginalyn Relos performs Tapi Tapi with Jimson Dearos



Dayang Ginalyn Relos performs Tapi Tapi with Master Bambit Dulay







## The 3rd Filipino Martial Arts Festival 2006 & The 1st Remy A. Presas Memorial Modern Arnis Camp

### **The Organizing Committee:**

Grandmaster Rene R. Tongson  
Grandmaster Cristino B. Vasquez  
Grandmaster Roland Dantes  
Grandmaster Rodel Dagooc  
Grandmaster Jerry Dela Cruz  
Dr. Remy Presas, Jr.  
Senior Master Dieter Knüttel  
Senior Master Bambit Dulay

Senior Master Noel Peñaredondo  
Guro Jose Dion Diaz  
Guro Alfred Plath  
Guro Edessa Ramos  
Guro Antonio Aguirre  
**Dayang Ginalyn Relos**  
Dayang Che-Che



Dayang Ginalyn and Senior Guro Jimson Kayog



## Kiwanis Club Philippines

"Training Program for Kids"

Part of the Summer Training Program of the Kiwanis Club  
Through the efforts of Mark Lledo, supported by IMAFP and PIGSSAI  
Indang, Province of Cavite



### Instructors of the said training program from IMAFP were:

Senior Master Samuel Dulay, Master Noel A. Penaredondo, Guro Rodolfo T. Poblacion, Jr. and **Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos**, traveled more or less two hours from Manila to Cavite, without really any knowledge of the exact number and ages of practitioners we are going to teach on that day.

Teaching kids ages from 7 to 12 years old is very difficult, one cannot apply those strict and formal training programs that had been prepared, and so we had to think of something different. Ideas on how we teach these kids to make them enjoy the training to accept it and keep on practicing and delegate the said training program to their families and friends.

The program was turned into something so that they felt they were only playing games with each other considering that the schedule of training is at 10am in the morning up to 12 o'clock noon. The kids were supposedly tired at the end of the training program, but since they had enjoyed the program, they never seemed tired or bored "ang kukulit at nakakatuwa!"



## **IMAFP Law Enforcers Training Program**

International Modern Arnis Federation Philippines  
Malabon City, Philippines



Senior Guro Ginalyn J. Relos instructing.

A program was developed for the law enforcement of Malabon City. The objective of the program was to develop the barangay Tanods to enhance their skills in monitoring the peace and order situations of every barangay of Malabon City. The training started on October 14th and was held every Saturday and Sunday, teaching a number of 250 responsible barangay Tanods and was completed on December 2, 2006 with a graduation ceremony. The program is

not only like an ordinary law enforcers' training program but will be extended after the graduation by forming a group, “**The Malabon Arnis**” with a set of officers. This group will be an affiliated member of the International Modern Arnis Federation Philippines through the supervision of Senior Master Dulay.

### **Committee for the Project:**

Project of Honorable Arnold D. Vicencio *Vice Mayor, Malabon City, Philippines*

### **Project Coordinator:**

Mr. Randie C. Santiago Jr.

*Executive Officer of the Vice Mayor*

### **Training Director:**

Senior Master Rene R. Tongson

### **Supervising Instructor:**

Senior Master Samuel D. Dulay

### **Instructors:**

**Senior Guro Ginalyn J. Relos**

Senior Guro Jimson N. Dearos

Senior Guro Rodolfo T. Poblacion, Jr.

### **Assistant Instructors:**

Francis Nagen

Marcelo Oyales

Mao Leongson

Armando Soteco, Jr.

**IMAF Philippines**  
**1st Training Seminar for 2007**  
Dept. of Tourism, Quadrangle

IMAFP welcomes the year with a successful training seminar last January 14, (Sunday) 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Dept. of Tourism, Quadrangle. The whole day exhausting training was enjoyed by more or less thirty formally registered participants mixed from Local Law enforcers of newly organized IMAFP Affiliate group - Arnis Malabon; teachers from the National College of Physical Education, students from schools and other members joined. They were taught equally with consideration to the beginners and with those who already have knowledge in Arnis.

Training-In-Charge: Sr. Guro Jimson Dearos

**Over-All in Charge: Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos**





Senior Guro Ginalyn Relos maintains a Sunday training class regularly to develop a group. So far she has regular students and other instructors of the IMAFP as well as IMAFP officers that come to the training for support and sometimes for their training as well.



**School of the Year 2007**  
**Kuntaw ng Pilipinas**  
**Aquinas University, Legaspi, Philippines**



The Aquinas University Kuntaw was established and founded on March 25, 1998 by Michael M. Tuscano, who was a green belt that time, was very much interested to study martial arts since his childhood.

Michael has been interested in the martial arts since his childhood. He began to study Kuntaw at the age of 7 years old. However because of the constant practice he suffered a arm fracture, this caused him to stop for almost 10 years. But since his desire was strong to know and learn Kuntaw martial arts he enrolled again until such time he was promoted as a Head Instructor.

From the time he enrolled in the Kuntaw ng Pilipinas he has deeply understood that martial arts, is for self-defense and a very good physical exercise. He likes most the way of Kuntaw Martial Arts among other forms of martial arts, because of this he is encourage and inspired by his mentors to try and start a martial arts association at the Aquinas University of Legaspi where he is presently studying and working.

His main purpose is to propagate Kuntaw ng Pilipinas showing the youth that learning a form of martial arts it will build self awareness, responsibility, inner peace and have them realize using illegal drugs or being in a gang is not a wise decision. What Michael likes most about the simplest but unique style of Kuntaw in fighting, is the sweeping and grabbing techniques.

Guro Michael Tuscano is the adviser and head instructor of Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw up to the present. He also teaches Kuntaw during Sundays at Legaspi Port Elementary School as their outreach program for the children. He likes to develop the true essence of a Kuntawista as far as its values and philosophy is concerned. And he also wants to teach the youth the discipline and respect that they owe themselves and to others.

In a discussion with Mr. Jesus A. Barizo, who is the Moderator of Student Affairs and is responsible in coordinating and supervising activities at the University. Mr. Barizo was looking for a martial arts program that would meet the requirements of the University, one which would abide by the University's by-laws, and in coordination with



the laws of the Philippines. That the officers and members of the organization; could produce a plan of action for each semester that that their program was to be offered.

Also that the program must show how it would be beneficial to the University and the community, showing good moral character, discipline, while students would still be responsible for their academic requirements.

Mr. Barizo had for many years observed martial arts organizations come and go and was skeptic about Kuntaw, but accepted the proposal from Michael Tuscano.

With the help of Mr. Eduard Sarate; an alumni of Kuntaw ng Pilipinas, formulate a possible plan of action. They gathered all the senior members of Kuntaw ng Pilipinas and also recruit new members. And with the help of the following persons: Vicente Arias, Heide Arias, Roberto Ala, Maricel Arquero, Jannette Raña, Jonathan Raña and Master Leogildo Capistrano, a final decision was made.

His eagerness to propagate Kuntaw martial arts he immediately wrote a letter to Rev. Fr. Virgilio A. Ojoy, O.P. the Rector and President of the University, and through the help of Mr. Jesus Barizo, Moderator for Student Affairs, the beloved Rector and President approved the request to established and put a martial arts association in the University.

On March 25, 1998 Fr. Ojoy, O.P. signed and approved the letter and Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw Association was recognized as the University Based Organization up to this time.



**Lakan Guro Michael M. Tuscano**  
2nd Degree Black Belt, IKF-KNP  
Founding Chairman  
Adviser and Head Instructor



**Lakan Guro Vicente V. Arias**  
3rd Degree Black Belt  
Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw  
Head Instructor

Lakan Guro Vicente V. Arias, started to practice martial arts since 1963 when he is 7 years old And under Arceneo Arcega he enrolled to practice an Okinawan Style of martial arts. In the the year 1966 he joined the Black Mongoose under Luis Bulan. In 1968 he started training in a style of Kung-Fu for four year. 1973 he joined Aikido under Domingo Galvez and earned a Black Belt.

In 1991 he enrolled in Kuntaw ng Pilipinas and became an instructor. 2001 he join the KASAA Arnis and also earned Black Belt. Since he has been with Kuntaw ng Pilipinas, he has commenced teaching Kuntaw and has established one chapter which is

the Ibalon Chapter. And now he is the Officer in Charge of the Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw.



### **Lakan Bini Heide Arias**

1st Degree Black Bel

Lakan Bini Heide commenced her training in Kuntaw in 1993 at the Bonot Chapter. She was grade 5 when her father, encouraged her to join Kuntaw.

She likes most to study the forms of Kuntaw. In the year 2000 she was promoted for the 1st Degree Black Belt. She competes in different tournaments, martial arts exhibitions and form competitions. She is now an

instructor at Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw, teaching forms and advance combative techniques. She is also a member of KASAA Arnis.

Master Dodong Capistrano

### **Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw**

Guro Michael Tuscano

Guro Vincente Arias

Guro Bert Ala

Dayang Siony Capistrano

Dayang Heidi Arias

Guro Rogelio Desacula

### **Legaspi Port, Kuntaw**

Guro Julysses Belga

Guro Julius Belga

Guro John Rangel

Guro Romulo Barrameda



Guro Michael Tuscano with fellow instructors and students, during the Regional Competition in Iriga City. Winning the Over All Championship.



## **The Legaspi City Team**

**Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw Gym**



## **The Legaspi Port Chapter**

(Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw's Mother Chapter)  
at Legaspi Port Elementary School  
Legaspi City







**The Aquinas University Legaspi, Kuntaw and Legaspi Port Chapter**  
 Examination Day  
 Aquinas University of Legazpi Gym



**Master Leogildo “Dodong” Capistrano**  
 Legaspi Port Chapter

Master Dodong started his training in Kuntaw martial arts in 1979, under the late Master Eduardo Langcauon at Kuntaw Central Gym, Legaspi City. In 1982 he was promoted Black Belt. He has shown the art of Kuntaw in many exhibitions, and demonstrations. Participated and has successfully won many tournaments.

He became an assistant instructor at Bagong Bayan Central School in the year 1987. Through hard work and dedication with many hours of training and participation in tournaments he became the Chief Instructor of the Bonot Chapter in the Year 1990. When Master Ed Langcauon passed away, the Bonot Chapter also closed.

Master Dodong opened the Legaspi Port Kuntaw and he began to teach in 1998 until the present time, and the Chief Instructor of the Kuntaw Central Gym. In support of Kuntaw martial arts, Master Dodong extended his assistance and support to Kyud Michael Tuscano in opening a chapter of Kuntaw martial arts at Aquinas University.

In same year the Aquinas University Legaspi - Kuntaw was born and Master Dodong is also the Chief Instructor at the University and Guro Michael Tuscano is the Head Instructor and Adviser. Grandmaster Carlito A. Lañada, Sr. promoted Leogildo Capistrano, to Master in December 2004 in Olongapo City when Kuntaw celebrated its Anniversary.



Master Dodong  
demonstrating a combative techniques.

## MESSAGE

On behalf of the Kuntaw ng Pilipinas - Headquarters, We would like to express our warmest thanks for the support that the Aquinas University of Legazpi, Inc., Rawis, Legaspi City has extended to us during Tournaments (Local and Regional), practices, promotions and ranking ceremonies and other inter-chapter activities.

**REV. FR. RAMONCLARO G. MENDEZ, O.P.**

**Rector & President**

Aquinas University of Legazpi  
Rawis, Legaspi City

**SIR JESUS BARIZO**

**Moderator for Student Affairs - SDS**

Aquinas University of Legazpi  
Rawis, Legaspi City

**REV. FR. SENEN R. ECLEO, O.P.**

**Vice Rector for Finance**

Aquinas University of Legazpi  
Rawis, Legaspi City

**SIR REYNALDO BOBADILLA**

**DPESF Director/OIC AQ Gymnasium**

Aquinas University of Legazpi  
Rawis, Legaspi City

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Rawis, Legaspi City

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Aquinas University of Legazpi  
Rawis, Legaspi City





**Aquinas University Kuntaw Association**

Kuntaw ng Pilipinas

Guro Mike Tuscano

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Rawis, Legaspi City

[052] 482-0542/ 820-8716

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**Website**

**Organization of the Year 2007**  
**International Modern Arnis Federation - Philippines**  
**- IMAFP -**



The International Modern Arnis Federation of the Philippines (IMAFP) is an organization that thrives on the spirit of tradition. It is the spirit that guides the countless innovations and techniques that have been developed in modern times, as well as the many styles that have sprung forth from the genius of many masters.

The Council of Masters of Modern Arnis is the safe-keeper of this tradition as well as its guiding spirit. Many of the masters have been training in Filipino martial arts from childhood. They have been gifted with the knowledge passed on from generation to generation. In the olden days, the masters were not adorned with belts or ranks; it was not necessary. One proved oneself not through promotional exams but in the field of actual battle or combat. It is this tradition that spurs the IMAFP masters to undertake the task of strengthening the classical roots of Modern Arnis.

The Council of Masters have several members, but most prominent are the following, for they are responsible for the fast spread of modern arnis both in the Philippines and in many countries around the world. These masters have developed programs, innovated, revealed their specialties in many continents, and returned home to share their experiences. They are:

- Senior Master Cristino Vasquez
- Senior Master Rene Tongson
- Grandmaster Roberto Presas
- Senior Master Rodel Dagooc
- Senior Master Samuel Dulay
- Master Godofredo Fajardo

It was in 1996 that Attorney Salvador P. Demaisip (a student himself of Modern Arnis) was approached by several factions of the art and came to realization that a Federation should be formed to ensure the promulgation and promotion of the art so the dreams of Grandmaster Presas would become a reality.

These groups wanted Attorney Demaisip to lead the Organization as Chairman. He accepted the challenge. There was an election of Officers and Board of Directors.

With Attorney Demaisip experiences in management as a management consultant and being a practicing lawyer the Organization would have a foundation in which, to work and possibly succeed.

With a foundation the organization commenced to promote the art of Arnis de Mano, not only in the Philippines, but with a dream of sharing the Filipino art worldwide. This was also the desire of Grandmaster Presas.

So with the foundation formed, the IMAFP set into motion the fundamentals and formulated a mission to make Arnis an accepted art first in the Philippines and then gradually would turn to overseas in the International area.

**Chairman** - Atty. Salvador P. Demaisip

**Officers:**

**President** - Master Noel A. Peñaredondo

**Internal Vice President** - Guro Renato L. Centro

**External Vice President** - Master Samuel D. Dulay

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Guro Ginalyn J. Relos

**Auditor** - Guro Paulo O. Motita II

**Public Relations Officer** - Guro Rodolfo N. Poblacion, Jr.

**Advisers:**

Dr. Alejandro Dagdag DEM

Master Rene Tongson

Councilor Julio Logarta

Atty. Teresita N. Santos

Eng'r. Jose Dion Diaz

**Members:**

Professor Armando C. Soteco

Senior Master Samuel D. Dulay

Senior Master Cristino Vasquez

Master Noel A. Peñaredondo

Guro Rodolfo T. Poblacion, Jr.

Guro Jimson Dearos

Guro Renato L. Centro

Guro Paulo O. Motita II

Guro Ginalyn J. Relos

Besides the Organizations; Officers and Board of Directors, committees were initiated:

- Membership Committee
- Finance & Administrative Committee
- Special Projects Committee
- Physical Reform Committee (A home committee for the purpose of proposals that are planned in the Philippines).

At the beginning of each year, objectives are made for the year, with a system of management objectives.

The first year with this management the results were good. The second year found even better results, since they were more aggressive in their goals. And even more joined and franchises were organized such as in Baguio City, Meycauayan, Iloilo, Cebu City, Bacolod City, Hinigaran, Zamboanga, Davao, and Koronadal.

This was all due to the professional attitude and management, with the invested time and effort of the organization. The IMAFP through its promotion of the art has shown that it is a traditional art of the Philippine culture, good physical exercise, and a simple self defense art.

**IMAFP Board Members**

**Chairman** - Attorney Salvador P. Demaisip – to maintain the management of the IMAFP and the programs of the organization Too strengthen the practice of Arnis de Mano in the Philippines with an eye towards sharing whatever can be offered with the nation's communities.

His future goals are to continue to promulgate the art of Arnis de Mano and strengthen the organizations membership throughout the Philippines and Internationally.

**President** - Master Noel A. Peñaredondo - is the president of the Federation since the Year 2003, he was before a member of the board and when the IMAFP had an election for the new officers in 2003, he was elected as the new President. Being the president of the Federation for three years, he has been an active working president, lots of projects in progress. He focuses on the promotion of the art starting from his hometown, in the Bicol region by having a demonstration and conducting seminars for the Barangay Tanod.

Being the President, he leads the Working Executives in taking actions for the continuous propagation of the art. His active participation in organizing the 3rd World Filipino Martial Arts Festival in July 2006 was one of his goals.

Today, Master Noel Peñaredondo is taking on leave due to his continuous treatment from being paralyzed. He is now striving and giving all his effort so to be back in the industry once again.

**Internal Vice President** - Guro Renato L. Centro - is one of the senior instructors of Master Bambit Dulay. Being an elected Internal Vice President, he performs the important responsibility in keeping the federation administratively. He handles the proper delegation of the responsibilities of the committees, and projects to be taken up for approval.

**External Vice President** - Master Samuel D. Dulay - handles the promotion and negotiations outside the Federation, he performs the technical aspect in promoting the art.

**Secretary/Treasurer** - Guro Ginalyn J. Relos - as a secretary, her duties are to record /prepare everything for the proper process of the Federation, remind/suggest her brother martial artists and the board of the Federation, what should be done and supports the day to day activity of the Federation in terms of reporting, requests, communications, follow ups, setting projects, meetings, trainings and others.

As a Treasurer as well, she makes sure that the financial status of the Federation should maintain expenses so to be able to support all projects and activities. Her hopes for the future, as secretary, are that everyone in the IMAFP will follow procedures seriously leading the IMAFP to success... she hopes that when the time comes that she is no longer the secretary and/or the treasurer. The IMAFP will remain stable and continuously run smooth with people doing all the work honestly.

**Auditor** - Guro Paulo O. Motita II - as Auditor of the Federation, Sr. Guro Paulo's responsibility is to keep an eye on the financial rotation of the Federation. He coordinates with the treasurer in terms of the auditing of the financial report submitted by the secretary.

**Public Relations Officer** - Guro Rodolfo N. Poblacion, Jr. - communicates with the group and others to delegate the day to day activities of the Federation. He is the one in charge of communicating the invitations, promotions of the projects/events to be organized.

Through the collective ideas, skills of the officers within the group, the IMAF-Philippines six(6) years of existence is now taking a higher step in the Filipino Martial Arts community with its outstanding performance in organizing various events such as: Various Sports Arnis Tournament, Law Enforcers Training Programs, Kids Training Programs, and the Cultural aspect of the art.

The National Filipino Martial Arts Festival, the 3rd World Filipino Martial Arts Festival and now continuously making its bigger area of existence by promoting it into the International area, through the effort of Dayang Edessa Ramos, Master Godo Fajardo and some direct contact from the previous student of Senior Master Dulay.

The IMAFP Board also continuously propagates the group in accepting affiliation and working on the establishment of different chapters nationwide, through this, their mission will be fulfilled in the future and the dream of their dearest Grandmaster Remy A. Presas, Sr. will come true even he is no longer exists. In the IMAFP hearts his legacy will continue and someday other Modern Arnis practitioners will agree on what the IMAFP is working for. The IMAFP hopes that all will join in making Grandmaster Presas's dream come true.

Together with other Modern Arnis organizations in the Philippines, this organization has stepped up to oversee the development of Modern Arnis in the Philippines, as well as in almost all parts of the world. To date, IMAFP has over 50 Modern Arnis chapters established in the Philippines. IMAFP has also appointed several Commissioners to form IMAFP chapters in other parts of the world. Most of these Commissioners were also direct students of Remy Presas, including Edessa Ramos (Europe), Godofredo Fajardo (Middle East), and Jay de Leon (North America). An affiliation relationship also exists with the German Modern Arnis group Deutsche Arnis Verband (DAV) headed by Dieter Knuttel. While most of these instructors operate independent schools, they look to the grandmasters in the Philippines and IMAFP for leadership and guidance in matters relating to Modern Arnis.

Since its inception in 2001, it has grown to its current sizeable membership spread throughout the islands. Here is but a partial list of IMAFP chapters and affiliate clubs in the Philippines:

**Metro Manila:** 26 Chapters

**Luzon:** 3 chapters in Baguio City, 2 in Meycauayan, and 8 in Cavite

**Visayas:** 6 chapters in Iloilo, 1 in Cebu City, 3 in Bacolod City, 2 in Hinigaran

**Mindanao:** 3 chapters in Zamboanga, 2 in Davao, 2 in Koronadal

#### **IMAFP Manila Chapter / Metro Manila Commission**

President - Atty. Teresita Santos

Vice President - Panchito Victoria

Secretary - Mitzie Secopito

Treasurer - Jeffrey Plotria

#### **IMAFP Cordillera Commission**

Commissioner/Executive Director - Lakan/Guro Egon Nile C. Jordan

President - Jerry T. Gapongli

Vice President Internal Affairs - Gregorio Walcien Jr.

Vice President External Affairs - Herman Pelingen



Secretary - Risa K. Ben-at  
Treasurer - Adolfo K. Pinas Jr.  
Auditor - Marvin C. Makin  
Public Relations Officer - Christian C. Sagon  
Sports Coordinator - Rodini Buyogan

### **IMAFP Western Visayas Commission**

Commissioner, Panay - Angel E. Briones  
Commissioner, Iloilo - Rosauro De Leon  
Coordinator, Sta. Barbara, Iloilo - Jun Tanalgo  
Coordinator, Oton, Iloilo - Fortunato Hojilla, Jr.  
President - Ludovico Losanes  
Vice President-Internal - Girlie Tinagan  
Vice President-External - Joebert Mayote  
Secretary - Jun Tanalgo  
Auditor - Lino Baldevarona  
Business Manager - Roger Vergara

### **IMAFP Mindanao Commission**

This data does not take into account the huge numbers of Philippine schools, colleges and universities, which now teach arnis as part of their physical education curriculum. In Metro Manila, 38 schools/colleges/universities already implement regular training programs in Modern Arnis, with estimated total of 40,000 students. Several IMAFP instructors have been sent out to these institutions in order to train local teachers and develop them into becoming instructors.

In the international arena, IMAFP has chapters in the following countries: Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Italy, Indonesia, Hong Kong, Korea, Saudi Arabia, USA, Mexico, and Brazil. IMAFP has 3 international commissions that coordinate its regional international work, each one headed by a commissioner who is appointed directly by the Council of Masters in Manila.

### **International Regional Commissions are:**

(Click the abbreviation to learn more about the Chapters)

**Europe:** Guro Edessa Ramos

**MAS** - IMAFP Switzerland

**FENIK** - IMAFP Italy

**Middle East:** Master Godofredo Fajardo

**IMAFP** - Middle East

**North America:** Guro Jay de Leon

**IMAFP** - North America

**NAFMA** - IMAFP East Coast USA

**IMAFP** New Jersey

**IMAFP** Maryland

**AIAAMM** - IMAFP Mexico

### **International Affiliates and Supporters:**

**Datu Dieter Knüttel** - Germany - **Deutsche Arnis Verband (DAV)**  
**Master Bram Frank** - Florida - **Common Sense Self-Defense / Street Combat (CSSD/SC)**  
**Master Dan Anderson** - Oregon - **Dan Anderson Karate**  
**Alfredo Rico Acosta** - **Kuntaw Kali Kruzada / Kruzada Eskrima**

### **Get More Knowledge About IMAFP...**

Get to know more about the IMAFP. Click the subject to learn more.



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## **Recognition of Brotherhood 2007 World Filipino Martial Arts Association WFMAA**

The World Filipino Martial Arts Association (WFMAA) was founded in 2003 to promote and propagate the Philippine Martial Arts, the rich Culture and legendary Traditions of the Philippines. The mission is to develop a unique FMA Brotherhood and Gathering rarely witnessed and experienced by instructors and students throughout the world. Its annual gathering features Grandmasters, Punong Guros, Masters and Guros representing a variety of systems and styles of the Filipino Combative Arts, indigenous to the Philippines.

The annual gathering includes the Masters Seminar Series spanning both days, followed by an awards banquet in the evening. The festivities include Philippine cultural performances and martial arts demonstrations by local schools. On the third day of the event, students from a variety of fighting systems and styles compete in the WFMAA Laban Laro Tournament. It is a much-anticipated event where students eagerly await the opportunity to test their skills, knowledge and fighting prowess against each other.

The annual gathering is a truly historical, legendary and most memorable event.

### **Masters Seminar Series Friday and Saturday**

The featured Expo instructors are either the founder or the top exponent of their respective systems. In fact, some of the featured instructors are legends in the Filipino martial arts world community.

### **Welcome Dinner on Friday**

The welcome dinner is an event that gets the instructors and participants together for a relaxing time. Each instructor is asked to say a few words. You have to be there. Each says a few words on several different topics, but all agreed that the WFMAA was a event that brings the Filipino martial arts community together and promotes its continuous activity for the future.

### **Awards Banquet on Saturday**

The Awards Banquet is truly a Gala Event. With host Punong Guro Myrlino P. Hufana presiding over the event.

It starts off with a simple greeting and then on with the show. The Entertainment is provided by a most professional group in the area, sometimes Filipino Sayaw, sometimes by a local martial arts group.

Upon conclusion of the entertainment, instructors and participants enjoyed a buffet that is always excellent in all respects.

Then the awards ceremony, in which each instructor that has participated in the seminars is recognized and honored. Now with all concluded, it is time to shake a leg,



yes let the music begin and everybody dance into the wee hours of the night.

### **The Laban Laro Championship on Sunday**

The Laban Laro is a tournament that is held each year by the WFMAA as part of their annual event. It is the testing of skills in combat. With only head and hand gear it is truly a challenge, even with the slightly padded sticks that are used.

Participants have practiced throughout the year and have attended Punong Guro Hufana's seminars, which are designed for the training of this event.

Overall it is truly a test, of speed, endurance, technique, and skill. However the most important aspect of the tournament is the attitude of sportsmanship and friendship.

### **2006 WFMAA Exposition**



Palace Station Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada

### **2005 WFMAA Exposition**



Coast Anaheim Hotel, Anaheim, California



## 2004 WFMAA Exposition



The Palms Casino & Resort Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada

## 2003 WFMAA Exposition



Embassy Suites Hotel, Bellevue, Washington



### WFMAA - 2005

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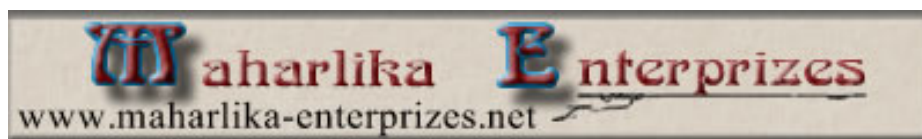
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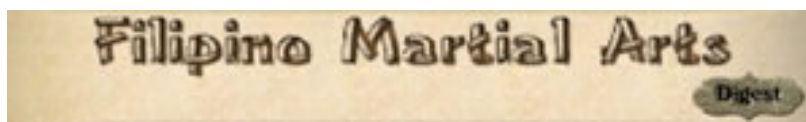
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